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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.   | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/851,460   | 05/08/2001  | Ulrich Reiners       | 9784-3U2 (TH8002US/B) | 4175             |
| 570  | 7590        | 01/17/2006           | EXAMINER              |                  |
| AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD L.L.P.<br>ONE COMMERCE SQUARE<br>2005 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2200<br>PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 |             |                      | KRUER, KEVIN R        |                  |
|  |             | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER          |                  |
|  |             |                      | 1773                  |                  |

DATE MAILED: 01/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

01092006

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**Commissioner for Patents**

The "Evidence Appendix" and the "Related Proceedings Appendix" filed November 23, 2005 have been fully considered. The appendixes have been forwarded to the Board along with the Appellant's Reply Brief filed June 6, 2005. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin R. Kruer whose telephone number is 571-272-1510. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carol Chaney, can be reached at 571-272-1284.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin R. Kruer

Patent Examiner-Art Unit 1773